A GUIDE TO YOUR 2020 FORM 1099-Q PAYMENTS FROM QUALIFIED EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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RAYMOND JAMES
OVERVIEW

A 529 plan is a tax-deferred savings plan that is designed to help families save for future college expenses. This guide will help you understand your tax form and provide useful information on frequently asked questions. The guide should assist with your tax return preparation. While we hope you will find the information in this guide valuable, please remember that it is simply a reference tool and should not be used as tax advice. We strongly advise you to speak with a tax professional regarding appropriate filing.

When preparing your tax return, if you should happen to find conflicting information appearing in the Internal Revenue Code, the Treasury regulations promulgated thereunder or other IRS publications, those authorities supersede anything you might find in this guide. Further, because the information we’ve provided here is general in nature, you should always follow the advice of your own tax professional.

DELIVERY OF FORM 1099-Q

Raymond James will mail Form 1099-Q on or before January 31, 2021. In lieu of a printed tax form, clients using Client Access can opt into electronic delivery of their tax statements. If you choose this option, you will receive an email when your tax forms are available online. Please contact your advisor if you have any questions or need assistance.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

RECIPIENT’S TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER

For your protection, this form may show only the last four digits of your SSN, ITIN, ATIN or EIN. However, the payer or trustee has reported your complete identification number to the IRS.

ACCOUNT NUMBER

This may show an account or other unique number the payer has assigned to distinguish your account. If the account number on your Form 1099-Q ends in “[space] B,” this indicates that your Form is coded as a qualified tuition expense.

QUESTIONS

If you have any suggestions, questions or comments about this guide or your 529 plan tax form, please contact your financial advisor at the telephone number on the cover page of your 1099-Q tax form(s) or Client Services at 800.647.7378.

Helpful Tip: Enrolling for electronic delivery of tax reporting documents may provide faster access to your Form 1099-Q.
1099-Q FORM SUMMARY

BOX 1: GROSS DISTRIBUTION
Reports the gross distribution (including in-kind distributions) paid to you this year from a Qualified Tuition Program (QTP). This amount is the total of the amounts shown in box 2 and box 3. See IRS Pub. 970 for more information.

BOX 2: EARNINGS
Reports the earnings part of the gross distribution shown in box 1. Generally, amounts distributed that are used to pay for qualified education expenses, transferred between trustees, or rolled over to another qualified education program within 60 days are not included in income.

Under a QTP, the amount in box 2 is included in income if there has been (a) more than one transfer or rollover within any 12-month period with respect to the same beneficiary, or (b) a change in the designated beneficiary and the new designated beneficiary is not a family member.

BOX 3: BASIS
Reports your basis in the gross distribution reported in box 1. This is calculated by subtracting box 2 from box 1.

BOX 4: TRUSTEE TO TRUSTEE TRANSFER
This box is checked if a trustee-to-trustee transfer was made from one QTP to another QTP.

BOX 5: ACCOUNT TYPE IDENTIFICATION FIELD
Reports whether the gross distribution was from a QTP (private or state) or from a Coverdell Education Savings Account (CESA). Raymond James only holds QTP accounts, therefore “state” will be checked.

BOX 6: DESIGNATED BENEFICIARY
Indicates if the designated beneficiary is the individual named in the document creating the trust or custodial account to receive the benefit of the funds in the account. If you are not the designated beneficiary, see IRS Pub. 970 and the Instructions for Form 1040.

Filing Guide: IRS line-by-line instructions are found at the end of your Form 1099-Q. You can also refer to the IRS Filing Guide, which details where to report certain items from your 2020 Form 1099-Q.